1992

Summer

NCNA *Journal*

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JOURNAL

SUMMER 1992

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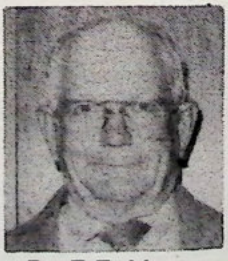

Dr. E.E. Moore

NCNA JOURNAL

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

& CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

As I look back over the past two years in office, there has not been very much, if any progress in NCNA. However, I have high hopes for a bigger and better convention this year in Raleigh. The Raleigh Coin Club always comes up with excellent exhibits, a good bourse and an interesting educational program; so plan to attend October 2-4 at the Mission Valley Inn, 2100 Avent Ferry Road, Raleigh NC. A special room rate has been given to the coin show, so make your reservations and ask for the special convention rate.

There will be an auction on Saturday, October 3, and we are asking for your donations of Numismatic Material for this auction. The money will go into the treasury to help with the finances. See all the details for the auction in the Spring 1992 issue or contact one of the officers. We are depending on you. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

Autence A. Bason, President

There is still time to submit nominations for officers and direrctors for 1993. Nominations should be sent in writing to NCNA, Box 20653, Greensboro NC 27420 before July 31, 1992.

THE COINAGE OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN REPUBLIC

by Alex Armstrong

After the removal of Spanish forces in 1821 from Mexico and Central America, the Central American countries of Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua existed as part of the Empire of Mexico under Augustin Iturbe. On July 1, 1823 the Central American Assembly declared its independence.

Coins of the Central American Republic were first struck in 1824 at Guatemala City. The obverse design shows a sun rising on the Republic and the five mountains which represent the five countries. The reverse shows a ceiba tree with the inscription "LIBRE CRESCA FECUNDO" which translates roughly as "Free and fertile we grow strong." The coins that were struck were of the Spanish system of reales and escudos and have the mintmark "NG". Eight reales in silver equaled a dollar or peso unit. Quarter, half and one reales were also struck. These coins are available at modest prices and make an interesting date/type set. The eight reales are fairly common as are the half and one reales.

Costa Rica began striking coins in 1825 in San Jose using provisional and republic issues. All of these are rare. Common Costa Rican issues did not begin until 1828 with the quarter, half, four and eight escudos in gold and in 1831 with the half and one reales in silver. The eight reales of 1831 is rare and is the only peso sized coin struck for Costa Rica. The mintmark "CR" appears on all these coins.

Obverse of Central American Republic, 8 Reales from Guatemala

Reverse of

Central American

Republic, 8 Reales

Costa Rica never acted in full faith towards the Central American union, hence the coinages of 1828 and 1831. Costa Rica also began minting silver minors after 1842. Only one date, 1845, of the quarter real (quartilla) was struck and is scarce.

Honduras began striking provisional half, one, two, four and eight reales in 1823-1825; all of which are rare. Tegucigalpa struck republican coinage with the mintmark "T" in 1830 through 1832 including half, one and two reales. The 1830 issue was probably struck in 1831. These are the most common of all Central American Republic coins.. Honduras began striking large quantities of provisional issues after 1831. Some people say the are counterfeit, which they are not!

El Salvador (San Salvador) began striking provisional issues of one and two reales in 1828 and continued striking until 1835. Issues of quarter, half, one, four and eight reales exist; all of which are rare. El Salvador did not strike any regular republic issues. The same is true of Nicaragua. There are Nicaraguan counterstamps on coins of the other countries.

Collecting these coins is great fun since a few can be found at most coins shows. A date set of eight reales can be assembled at modest cost. The gold is rare and not readily available. Americans have historically favored the Central American countries because they had resembled the United States in their struggle, although the countries rarely got along well among themselves.

BASIC GUIDE TO UNITED STATES COMMEMORATIVE COINS

by Michael J. Hodder & Q. David Bowers

a review by Ted Hendrick

Written in plain, easy-to read English, this work is an excellent source of material for the fledgling and the advanced collector.

The contents cover all commemorative coins from the first coin issued in the nineteenth century, through current issues. It covers the gambit from gold and silver through the current clad issues.

One good point is at the beginning. This affords the reader not only an alphabetical, but also a chronological index of all issues, which facilitates locating the coin from either information.

It is brought out that with few exceptions, commemoratives have a real historical significance. They also give one a relatively complete history of the United States.

Along with the usual description of the coin, there is also a record of the number authorized and the number actually minted.

Along with these other facts, there is the listing of interesting facts concerning each coin. These bits of information are well worth going over the book.

A new addition to this book, is a checklist of all gold and silver varieties, along with a market index showing issue price and values for ten year intervals since issue up to the current time.

All in all, this is a well planned and written work and is a must for the collector of United States commemorative coins.

THE EARLY QUARTER DOLLARS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1796-1838

A. W. Browning(1925) completely updated by Walter Breen(1991)

a review by Robert A. Izydore

This book is an extensive revision of the original edition that was published by Browning in 1925. The original version had 44 pages. All the known varieties of the various dates were shown in eight photographic plates at the end of the book. The coins were shown in actual size. Also included at the end of the text was a table listing the mintage of quarter dollars vs the mintage of half dollars for the years covered by the book. An Introduction by Browning was given at the front of the book. The original supply of the Browning book was very limited. Reprints were published in subsequent years. The most recent was by Sanford J. Durst Numismatic Publications in 1977. None of these reprints presented new information on the early quarter dollars. The Durst reprint showed the coins in the photographic plates with approximately 23 mm diameters, which is smaller than their true diameter of 27 mm.

The latest edition has 183 pages and retains intact most of the material in the original Browning version. The principal casualty is Browning's table of mintages which was deleted because some of the mintages listed by Browning had been dramatically revised in later years. At the front of the book is the original Introduction by Browning followed by an Introduction to the Revised Edition by Breen and a Commentary by Q. David Bowers. A considerable amount of new information is given in the revised text. New varieties have been listed for 1805 (B-5), 1806 (B-10), 1818 (B-11), 1820 (B-5), 1821 (B-6), 1831 (B-7), 1836 (B-5), and 1837 (B-5). Substantial annotations by Breen are included for each variety listed. Obverse and reverse illustrations for each variety, taken from new prints from Browning's original glass negatives, are shown on the same page as the description of the variety, and the diameters of the photos are considerably larger than actual size (approximately 48 mm vs 27 mm). This is a considerable improvement over the original edition. The details on the coins are easier to see, and it is no longer necessary to page back and forth between the descriptions of the varieties and the photographic plates at the end of the text. Browning's original photographic plates have been retained at the end of the book in order to preserve the original format.

For each variety illustrated, Browning's original description is reprinted unchanged and appears in larger type. The original description is followed by Breen's annotations which appear in smaller type. These annotation include additional details of the location and spacing of letters, numerals, and stars relative to the obverse and reverse designs. The locations of clashmarks, die cracks, and numerous other distinguishing characteristics are noted. A rarity rating (R1-R8) and a numerical condition census is given. The highest quality examples that are known are documented, often with the use of auction citations, and all known proofs are accounted for.

This updated revision is highly recommended for anyone interested in United States coins. It is a must for any collector or student of early U. S. quarter dollars.

The book was published by Bowers & Merena Galleries, Inc. in cooperation with George Frederick Kolbe.

Membership News

Donations Still Being Accepted for NCNA Auction

Members are reminded that they can still help make the 1993 NCNA Convention Auction a success by sending contributed material to John Wills, Box 40632, Fayetteville NC 28309. John can be reached by phone at (919) 484-0277

Numistmatist Article by Torrey McLean.

Torrey McLean of Raleigh is the author of an article in the June issue of the Numismatist entitled "The Case of the Dislexic Mint Worker." Torrey an expert on Spanish colonial cobs has worked with Louis Hudson of Greensboro and Leah L. Miguel to identify a series of systematic errors in the coins of Potosi in what is now Bolivia. The errors consist of reversed letters or parts of coats of arms. The cover picture is a photograph of one such coin. If you look at nine o'clock you can see the reversed "P" mintmark for Potosi. Torey's explaination is that a dislexic die cutter or designer worked at the Potosi mint between 1619 and 1622.

Southworth Speaks to Lower Cape Fear Coin Club

The program to foster interactions between North Carolina's coin clubs has born some fruit. Russ Southworth of Greensboro spoke to the Lower Cape Fear Coin Club this past spring on his favorite theme: Medals and Memorabia of the Pilgrims.

Carmichael Speaks to Long Beach Coin Club

North Carolinians do get around. Halbert Carmichael was invited to give a talk to the Long Beach Coin Club in Long Beach, California. The talk, "Birds on Coins," was given on the first of June and led to a number of questions from the audience. He also enjoyed watching another club getting ready for its show. They have the same problem we all do: not enough people want to do the tedious work getting ready for a show.

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COIN SHOW CALENDAR

LOCAL CHAIRMEN PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR, Box 5625, Raleigh, NC 27650 of your plans as soon as possible to avoid conflicts. Information transmitted in writing is safer, but between issues inquiries and information can be received during evening hours at 919-832-4128. or during business hours at 919-828-9450.

JULY 1992

11-12 Piedmont Triad Coin & Stamp Show, American Legion Hall, Greensboro NC, Jim Scott, 2217 Cloister Dr., Charlotte NC

17-19 Metropolitan Washington Num. Assoc., Sheraton Hotel,New Carrollton MD, Paul Singleton, Box 894, Annandale VA 22003

AUG 1992

2 Albermarle Coin Club, Holiday Inn, Nags Head NC, G. Jansen, 107 Quaker Dr., Elizabeth City NC 27909

12-16 ANA, Orange Co. Convention Center, Orlando FL, ,

21-23 Kerbela Shrine Temple, Knoxvile TN, Dennis E. Pressley, 3922 Copper Ridge Rd., Knoxville TN 37831

SEP 1992

4-6 Peach State Coin Show, Waverly Hotel, Atlanta GA, Mike Griffith, Box 76482, Atlanta GA 30358

11-13 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

12-13 Athens Coin Club, Welcome Inn Hotel, Athens AL, Jimmy Rogers, Box 762, Athens AL 35611

18-20 Virginia Numismatic Association, Westpark Hotel, McLean VA, Keith Littlefield, 703-354-9544

25-27 Blue Ridge Numismatic Assn, Quality Inn, Chattanooga TN, Ruth Armstrong, Box 80052, Chattanooga TN 37411

26-27 Charlotte Stamp Show, Days Inn Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, Box 240155, Charlotte NC 25224

OCT 1992

2-4 North Carolina Numismatic Assn., Mission Valley Inn, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

16-18 Middle Atlantic Numismatic Assn, Lantern Lodge Inn, Myerstown PA, Gerald Kochel, 14 W. Orange St., Lititz PA 17543

17-18 Piedmont Triad Coin & Stamp Show, American Legion Hall, Greensboro NC, Jim Scott,

30-1Nov South Carolina Numismatic Assn, Hyatt Regency, Greenville SC, Bill Robinson, Box 16531, Greenville SC

NOV 1992

7-8 Greensboro Coin Club, Furniture Expostion Center, High Point NC, Ray McGuire, 1742 Battleground Ave, Greensboro NC

14-15 Cape Fear Coin Club, Holiday Inn Bordeaux, Fayetteville NC, John Wills, Box 40632, Fayetteville NC 28309

21-22 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Mission Valley Inn, Raleigh NC, ,

28-29 Rowan County Coin Club, Salisbury Civic Center, Mike McCullough, Box 76, Cleveland NC

DEC 1992

12-13 Charlotte Stamp Show, Days Inn Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp

JAN 1993

15-17 Peach State Coin Show, Waverly Hotel, Atlanta GA, Micke Griffith,

16-17 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Mission Valley Inn, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick

FEB 1993

6-7 Piedmont Triad Coin & Stamp Show, American Legion Hall, Greensboro NC, Jim Scott,

12-14 Charlotte Coin Club, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Will Jordan, Box 332292, Charlotte NC 28233

MAR 1993

19-21 Tennessee Numismatic Society, Days Inn, East Ridge Exit, Chattanooga TN, Ruth Armstrong, Box 80052, Chattanooga TN 37411

26-28 Model City Coin Club, Civic Auditorium, Kingsport TN, E. S. Stanley, 3737 Hemlock Pk. Dr., Kingsport TN 37663

MAY 1993

15-16 Raleigh Coin Club, Mission Valley Inn, Raleigh NC, Halbert Carmichael, Box 5625, Raleigh NC 27650

JUN 1993

11-13 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick

JUL 1993

23-25 Blue Ridge Numismatic Association & Tennessee Numismatic Society, Convention & Expostion Center Dalton GA

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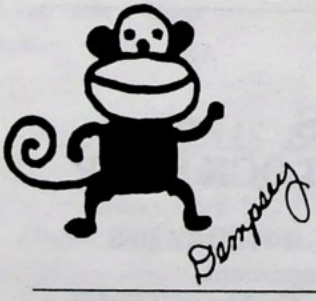

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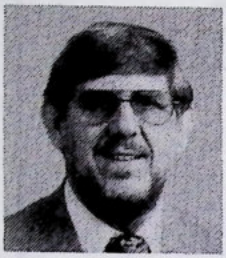

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